

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (currently amended): A method for thermal control of a digital imaging system comprising:

measuring a first dark current of the photo detector at a known temperature;  
measuring [[the]] a second dark current of [[a]] the photo detector; and  
calculating the temperature of the digital imaging system based on the first and  
second dark currents measured dark current; and  
controlling reducing the temperature of at least one component in the digital  
imaging system based on if the calculated temperature is greater than a preselected  
value.

Claim 6 (cancelled)

Claim 7 (previously presented): The method of claim 5, wherein the photo detector is a CCD.

Claims 8-11 (cancelled)

Claim 12 (currently amended): A method of operating a digital imaging device, said method comprising:

measuring a first dark current of at least one photo detector associated with said  
digital imaging device;

measuring a second dark current when said at least one photo detector is at a preselected temperature;

calculating the temperature of said at least one photo detector based on said first dark current and said second dark current; and

altering the performance of at least one device associated with said digital imaging device based on said temperature.

Claim 13 (previously presented) The method of claim 12 and further comprising a first photo detector of said at least one photo detector that is situated within said digital imaging device so as not to receive light, and wherein said measuring comprises measuring a first dark current of said first photo detector.

Claim 14 (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein said digital imaging device comprises a shutter, wherein said shutter controls the light received by said at least one photo detector, and wherein said measuring comprises closing said shutter and measuring a first dark current of said at least one photo detector.

Claim 15 (cancelled)

Claim 16 (currently amended) The method of claim 12 [[15]], wherein said first dark current changes a preselected amount for a preselected change in temperature, and wherein said calculating comprises calculating the temperature of said at least one photo detector by measuring the difference between said first current and said second current, wherein said temperature of said at least one photo detector is proportional to said difference.